

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 571

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Tennessee Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. for meritorious service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those estimable organizations that strive to achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (BPW/Tennessee), is one such notable organization that evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all its chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, with noble objectives, the BPW/Tennessee seeks to elevate the standards for women in business and in the professions, promote the interests of business and professional women, bring about a spirit of cooperation among business and professional women of the United States, and extend opportunities to business and professional women through education along the lines of industrial, scientific, and vocational activities; and

WHEREAS, the BPW/Tennessee has gained prestige and power for the business and professional women of Tennessee; taking part in affairs that affect women, the organization maintains a long tradition of state and community usefulness, which completely justifies the vision and hopes of its parent organization, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, over the years, BPW/Tennessee has been well represented in the National Federation; two outstanding national presidents, Miss Charl Ormond Williams and Miss Osta Underwood, have hailed from this state, as well as national treasurers, Mrs. Sara C. Bruce and Miss Wanda Carter (Bates); recording secretary and second vice president, Miss Ann Scott; an

executive secretary, Miss Elinor Coonrod; a national parliamentarian, Miss Margaret Heath; and several national committee chairs and members; and

WHEREAS, BPW/Tennessee, which comprises thirty-seven local organizations within the State, from the Smoky Mountains to the Mississippi River, has a long and accomplished history; and

WHEREAS, in June of 1919, approximately one hundred business and professional women met in the YWCA in Nashville to stimulate interest in attendance at the organizational meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, for the purpose of establishing the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, on July 3, 1920, a group of women representing seven business and professional women's clubs of Tennessee met in the Hotel Patten in Chattanooga and agreed that a state federation should be formed; and

WHEREAS, the seven charter clubs of the Tennessee Federation include Chattanooga Business and Professional Women's Club, Chattanooga Business Women, Columbia Business and Professional Women's Club, Jackson Business and Professional Women's Club, Knoxville Business and Professional Women's Club, Memphis Business and Professional Women's Club, and Business and Professional Women's Club of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, BPW/Tennessee's annual state convention will convene in Jackson this year, from June 7 to June 10, 2007; state president Gail Humphrey will lend her leadership talents to the conference, as well as national president Nancy Jackson; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the past and present members of the Tennessee Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. for their dedication to improving the workplace for the women of this State and Nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the members of the Tennessee Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., for their meritorious service to

the women of the State of Tennessee and this Nation, and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.